



MINUTES

SUNNYVALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION February 19, 2013

The Sustainability Commission met in regular session in the West Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. with Chair Harrison presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present:

Commission Chair Sue Harrison
Commissioner Barbara Fukumoto
Commissioner Andy Frazer
Commissioner Gerry Glaser
Commissioner Dan Hafeman
Commissioner Joe Green-Heffern

Commission Members Absent:

Commission Vice Chair Amit Srivastava (excused)

Council Liaison: Councilmember Pat Meyering (present)

Staff Present: Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager

Guest: Councilmember Tara Martin-Milius

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

None

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public announcements.

There were no announcements.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. Approval of draft minutes of Sustainability Commission meeting of January 22, 2013.

Commissioner Green-Heffern moved and Commissioner Fukumoto seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 22, 2013.

VOTE: 6-0 (Vote was unanimous. Commissioner Srivastava absent)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public announcements.

There were no announcements.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Action: Recommendation to Council Regarding the National Climate Assessment Report and Yale Project on Climate Change Communication Study

The Commission commented that the information in the reports was very valuable and detailed. Because of the length of the reports, the Commission felt that the Council may not have the time to review them. As a result, the Commission decided that it would be useful for the Commission to identify topics in the report to present to Council during the public comment period, on behalf of the Commission. The Commission discussed the need for a template the Commission can use when making presentations to Council. The outline for presentations will be:

- Topic/Issue
- Reference – Report
- Key Points/Highlights
- Links to Sunnyvale

Commissioner Hafeman moved and Commissioner Glaser seconded a motion to establish a format and template whereby Commissioner members take turns speaking at Council Meetings in three minute presentations during the public comment period, with slides, to provide education on issues based on published reports with an emphasis on highlighting key points and relevance to Sunnyvale.

VOTE: 6-0 (Vote was unanimous. Commissioner Srivastava absent)

Commissioner Fukumoto moved and Commissioner Hafeman seconded a motion to forward the executive summaries of the National Climate Assessment Report and Yale Project on Climate Change Communication Study to Council, with the expectation that highlights and comments will be provided during the public comment period by the Sustainability Commission at upcoming Council meetings.

VOTE: 5-0 (Vote Carries. Commissioner Glaser abstained; Commissioner Srivastava absent)

2. Discussion: Sustainability Commission Annual Workplan

The Commission discussed the Sustainability Commission Draft Annual Workplan.

No action was taken

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Oral Comments

Commissioner Glaser reported that he participated in a PACE webinar. Commissioner Glaser commented that the program was aimed at solar. Commissioner Glaser commented that programs that are able to get around the Fannie May roadblocks quickly realize great success.

Commissioner Harrison reported attending the Mayor's Roundtable breakfast. The topic of mixed-use, walkable communities was raised as highly desirable. Approximately 75 people from a cross-section of the community attended.

Commissioner Harrison reported attending meetings on the Lawrence Station plan hosted by Sunnyvale Cool and the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Fukumoto reported that the "Let's Get Moving! Silicon Valley Transportation Summit 2013" will be held Saturday, February 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Luther Burbank School in San Jose.

Commissioner Glaser reported participating in a webinar regarding group buys. It wasn't the typical group buy in that the solar installation is installed on the most appropriate homes in a neighborhood and those in the group buy receive the benefit even if the installation is not necessarily affixed to their home.

Commissioner Glaser reported participating in a webinar on "Virtual PPA's".

Commissioner Harrison reported attending a SPUR forum on sea level rise and climate change.

Commissioner Hafeman commented on a NASA report indicating that the average land based global temperature has not been increasing since 1998. The explanation provided is that rapid decay of the ice sheets in the North and South poles is absorbing the heat and shifting currents. It is expected that the heat absorbing currents will cease. Commissioner Hafeman commented that he raised the topic because of the impact it may have on public discussion and the confusion it may create. Commissioner Hafeman commented that the criticism in the article is that scientists are not getting the right message out.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

Reviewed by: John Stuffbean, Director of Environmental Services
Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager